

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



CITY HALL
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
TEL:(201) 547-5200
FAX:(201) 547-4288

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Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

CITY HALL TO SHOWCASE A GROUP EXHIBITION LOURA VAN DER MEULE and KATRINA BELLO

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy will host an opening reception from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** on **Tuesday, September 8, 2009** for a group exhibition featuring the artwork of **Loura Van Der Meule** and **Katrina Bello** at **City Hall, 280 Grove Street**.

Loura Van Der Meule in her latest series entitled ***Delft's Blue***, reconnects with her native land, the Netherlands, by recalling images from traditional Dutch tile and ceramic work and weaving them with geometric shapes to create a seeming hybrid of mediums - textile and tile work. The patterns, similar to geometric shapes, resonate with a sense of familiarity. They are those things in life that persist and reappear, things that are worthy of imitation and interpretation. Van Der Meule depicts her invigorating talent through her inexhaustible ability to meld the universal with the traditional.

Loura Van Der Meule, who currently lives and works in Jersey City, attended the Academy of Visual Arts in Breda and the School for Design and Décor in Utrecht, and came to New York in 1983 on a grant from The Dutch Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Her work has been exhibited in museums and galleries in the New York area, and has been collected by museums, corporations and private collections in the Netherlands and the U.S.

Also featured at the Rotunda Exhibit is **Katrina Bello's** show entitled ***Fervor: A Study of The Black Nazarene*** which is a series of 20 to 30 drawings.

Katrina Bello, born in Davao City, Philippines, currently lives and works both in the Philippines and the United States. Bello has had solo exhibitions at the Magnet Gallery in the Philippines, the Phoenix Gallery in New York City, and the Elizabeth Ann Seton Memorial Gallery in New Brunswick, N.J. Her artwork was also featured in group shows such as the Gallery Aferro in Newark, N.J., Victory Hall in Jersey City, N.J.; _gaia in Jersey City, N.J; Bill Maynes Gallery in New York, N.Y.; and the Philippine Consulate General Gallery, New York.

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Bello graduated Magna Cum Laude from Mason Gross School of the Arts - Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. with a BFA in Visual Arts and a minor in Art History Minor. Katrina Bello also attended the School of Visual Arts in New York and was an Industrial Design major at the College of Fine Arts, University of the Philippines. Bello's additional accolades include: the 2002 James and Barbara Betts Award, 2002 George Stauffer Award; and the 2002 Paul Robeson Cultural Center Award.

“The arts are a vital part of Jersey City’s growth and progress,” said **Mayor Healy**. “Artists contribute to the economic revitalization by stimulating commerce and helping communities retain their vibrancy. In hosting monthly art exhibits here in City Hall, we can introduce people to the arts and cultural events while showcasing the best Jersey City has to offer.”

The reception is free and open to the public and is handicap accessible. Refreshments will be served. The show, which is curated by City Hall Art Curator Greg Brickey, will run through the end of this month. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, contact the Division of Cultural Affairs at 201-547-6921.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///